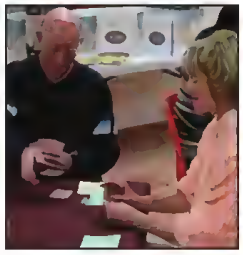
The
Niagara Advance
www.niagaraadvance.ca
Thursday, February 2, 2012

Vision for Regent St.

Niagara Foundation hopes to preserve green space 2

Shaw deficit $1.5 million

won't compromise coming season 4



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Leaving behind a piece of history

SARAH FERGUSON Niagara Advance

Grade 8 teacher Ruby Krake and her students Rushon Dagelman and Ryan Gray display some of the items, including a team T-shirt that was worn when former Virgil and Col. john Butler students competed together, that will be placed inside the Crossroads Public School time capsule. it will be buried inside one of the brick columns at the entrance of the school.

Crossroads students fill time capsule which will be buried during the grand opening celebrations

Sarah Ferguson
Niagara Advance

Ryan Gray and fellow classmate Rushon Dagelman have been working hard to produce a booklet and CD that hold a list of the popular music, movies and gadgets of 2011.

Now that they are finished, the students will place the items inside a time capsule which will be buried in one of the brick columns at the entrance of the Crossroads Public School.

The burial of the time capsule is part of the school's grand opening celebrations on Feb. 9.

Each class has been responsible for contributing an item to the time capsule and students in Grades 7 and 8 decided to record what movies, music and technological gadgets were popular during their school years, says Ruby Krake, the Grade 8 teacher.

The class began their project in late November, and once each student had chosen favourites, the class voted on what they thought should go in the time capsule, she said.

See Page 3

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Foundation hopes for public support to retain Regent Street oasis

Town should hold on to former lawn bowling green as public park, foundation says

Penny Coles
Niagara Advance

The Niagara Foundation, a small group of volunteers dedicated to the protection of Niagara-on-the-Lake heritage, hope to preserve the Town-owned green space that was leased to the lawn-bowling club for almost a century.

The Foundation doesn't have the kind of money required to buy the Regent Street property, as one councilor suggested at a recent council meeting, but members feel strongly that the property should remain in the public domain, as it has been since it was purchased by the government of Upper Canada in 1803, says Foundation president Paul Shepherd.

When the Town asked for expressions of interest for the use of the property that the NOTL Lawn Bowling Club had been leasing from 1813 until the new community centre opened last spring, the Niagara Foundation was the only response.

They proposed the creation of a bicentennial peace garden on the one/third of an acre in the heart of the Old Town, but their main objective has been to maintain a 200-year tradition of open public space, says Shepherd.

It also has historic significance—a home on the original four-acre property became the Government House, and it was there that Sir Isaac Brock and Colonel John Macdonnell lay in state after the Battle of Queenston Heights.

The former lawn bowling green is currently designated as open space in the town's Official Plan, but a planning staff recommendation to council last fall suggested it be zoned for residential development and sold.

The foundation has pledged to raise funds through grants and donations, hoping to team up with the town to access money from upper levels of government to finance the establishment of a garden, says Shepherd.

The cost to the Town would be the continuing maintenance of the property as a public park, but would seem less onerous and less expensive than the parks and recreation department's previous commitment to groom the green to the standards required for lawn bowling and look after the aging club house.

The foundation has received support from neighbours of the property, Parks Canada, the Friends of Fort George, the NOTL Conservancy, from MPP Kim Craitor, the Niagara Historical Society and from the Binational Economic and Tourism Alliance, which has undertaken its own peace garden trail as a bicentennial celebrations legacy project.

The Foundation has been given until March to return to the Town with more details, and is committed, on the occasion of its 50th anniversary, to initiate a design competition and accept start-up costs for a garden that would remain open to the public, said Shepherd.

PENNY COLES Niagara Advance

Paul Shepherd of the Niagara Foundation envisions a public garden, not houses, on the square of greenspace that was formerly the NOTL Lawn Bowling Club green.

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Please Recycle the Advance

Everyone welcome to tour school during open house

From Page 1

Dagelman and Gray were nominated to create the CD and they spent three days putting it together.

Although he didn't attend Virgil or Colonel John Butler, Dagelman says he is excited about the grand opening of Crossroads because it's an important part of the community and he is able to leave something behind for people in the future to see.

"It feels good considering I'm part of the first Grade 8 class at Crossroads."

Gray attended Virgil Elementary School since Kindergarten and he made the move to Crossroads this September.

He says he's thrilled to be a part of an important piece of Niagara-on-the-Lake's history.

"It's my first year here so I won't get the full experience Crossroads has to offer, but it's enough."

"The time capsule will be opened in 50 years," says Principal Marian Reimer Friesen, adding, "I will be there when it's opened."

The time capsule will include other items from students including T-shirts, a history write-up and photos from both former Colonel John Butler and Virgil Schools, current class pictures with signatures, staff photos and a floor plan of the new school.

The time capsule was something Friesen says she thought about when she knew the new school would open.

Friesen, who was principal of both Colonel John Butler and Virgil Elementary Schools when they closed, says it's "a dream come true" to be a part of the new school and it will be interesting to see how the school changes over the next 50 years.

"To be here and to be a part of something like this is amazing."

Friesen says she hopes everyone who can attend will visit Crossroads during the open house.

The grand opening, originally scheduled for November, was put on hold because parts of the school, including the new gymnasium, were still under construction.

Anyone who attends will also have the opportunity to tour the school and see the state-of-the-art classrooms with " a lot of technology" including smart boards and computers.

"The new school is a beyond beautiful building and people will have the opportunity to see everything including the learning commons which is a hybrid library and computer lab. It's an incredible marriage of technology and print."

The grand opening celebration begins at 2:15 p.m. when the time capsule will be placed at the front entrance of the school.

A reception with refreshments will follow from 3 to 3:30 p.m. and the open house will continue in the school's gymnasium until 6 p.m.

SARAH FERGUSON Niagara Advance

Ryan Gray holds some of the items that will be put inside the time capsule including an Advance article about the first day of classes when the school opened for the first time in September.

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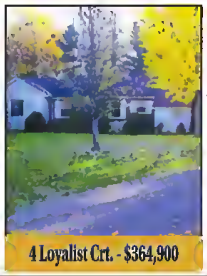

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Record–breaking season ends in red

Despite high attendance and ticket sales, Shaw's 50th season ends with $1.5 million deficit

Sarah Ferguson
Niagara Advance

Despite a $1.5 million deficit, the Shaw Festival's 11 plays for the 2012 season will go on, without compromising the artistic quality fans expect.

The Shaw held its annual general meeting Friday with financial statements for the 2011 season showing tickets sales reached $15.1 million last year, four per cent higher than 2010.

The company also generated higher revenues—last year's season drew in $28.3 million , up $700,000 over 2010, says Odette Yazbeck, public relations director.

Despite a nine per cent increase in attendance of 275,000 people and a 12 per cent increase in fundraising revenues from 2010, the festival's profits fell short due to increased spending for the 50th season.

See Page 5

DAVID COOPER Special to the Advance

Deborah Hay as Eliza Doolittle and Benedict Campbell as Henry Higgin starred in the Shaw Festival's 2011 production of My Fair Lady which sold a record-breaking 95,000 tickets.

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Pastor Larry Ritter

Village Bible Church
St. Davids Public School Meeting at 1344 York Road, St. Davids 289-296-9036
Sunday, February 5th
10:00am: Coffee Time • 10:30am: Worship Service
(Childcare Provided)
"God Wants Fruit Not Nuts" Part 5
Greg Alderton, Pastor www.villagebiblechurch.ca

Cornerstone Community Church
www.ccchurch.ca
1570 Niagara Stone Rd.
905-468-7155
Sunday, February 5th
9:30 am: 1st Service & CE
(childcare provided during entire service);
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"Behaviour....Live in Truth"
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Niagara United Mennonite Church
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(Ex. 3:4-12)
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www.orchardparkbiblechurch.org
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Festival will continue to produce high–quality shows audiences expect

From Page 4

"We set very aggressive targets and unfortunately we did not meet them."

Artistically, the Shaw had an amazing year, with its biggest hit, My Fair Lady, selling a record-breaking 95,000 tickets, says Yazbeck.

Other hits from the 2011 season included Drama at Inish and Maria Severa—both had their runs extended due to popular demand.

Another audience favourite Yazbeck says cannot be forgotten was The President, which made its return to the festival and was critically acclaimed.

The 2011 season, said Yazbeck, was about celebrating the people who have helped the Shaw evolve from a tiny theatre to become internationally known with four theatres in the heart of Niagara-on-the-Lake.

The Shaw held a reunion day for its anniversary, which included hundreds of past and present actors, writers, directors and volunteers to the Festival Theatre.

"It was important for the Shaw to look back and thank the community of Niagara-on-the-Lake and its efforts to make the Shaw what it is. We can't do it without the local ambassadors we have in the community and we were keen to thank people."

Yazbeck says plans are currently underway to cut corners and save money where it can be saved without affecting the 2012 season. These plans include setting modest goals for advertising, increasing ticket and expanding fundraising efforts.

"We focus all of our attention on the stage. The audience will always receive the highest product they've come to expect from the Shaw."

Jackie Maxwell, artist director, says staff are positive about the upcoming season, but they are "very aware" of the festival's deficit.

For 2012, Maxwell is directing Ragtime—a musical story about three families during the turn of the century.

The artistic director says the production will go on as planned, mixing new costumes with what the festival has in storage to cut costs.

"What you see on the stage can look lush and glorious and it doesn't necessarily have to be expensive."

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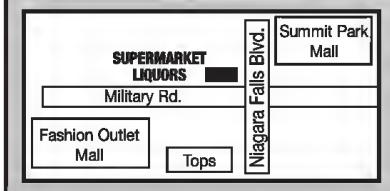

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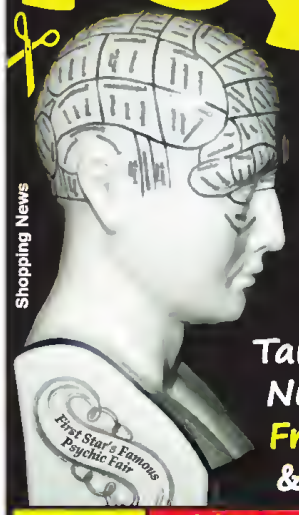

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our editorial

Future of Regent St. green space up in air

Members of the Niagara Foundation, a small but dedicated group of volunteers who have saved several significant heritage buildings in town, have now turned their sights on preserving the square on Regent Street that was formerly the NOTL Lawn Bowling Club and green, an oasis in the midst of a very busy downtown.

Its history of green space in the public domain goes back decades.

And although the revenue from what could become two residential development lots in the heart of Old Town must seem very tempting, in decades to come, it will seem a paltry sum to have received and spent in comparison to what we could have if the Town holds on to it.

There are other properties the Town passed up that are now lamented—too late.

If sold, the Regent Street square, which could be a lovely common area for locals and visitors, is likely to become one of those terrible blunders that will be regretted by generations to come.

The Niagara Foundation is anxious to work with the Town. It is willing to put up some money an to work on applications for funds from upper levels of government. All members are asking, really, is for the Town to forego the revenue from the property's sale. Their vision is commendable.

We should show our support and hope the Town has the foresight to listen.

Lawrenceville staff, owners support Red Roof Retreat

Tony Anastacio, Christine Doede and Sharon Steel present a $500 cheque to Ward Simpson for Red Roof Retreat, raised through donations by staff and owners of Lawrenceville Restaurant. Also MaryEllen Anastacio made a gingerbread house that was raffled. The donation goes to operating costs of Red Roof, which offers day programs and respite care for special needs children and young adults.

If it ain't broke don't fix it, says NHS supervisor about NOTL Hospital

Provincially-appointed supervisor Kevin Smith has only good things to say about our little hospital

Penny Coles
Editor's Notebook

In all the buzz we've heard recently about hospital restructuring, there hasn't been a peep about the Niagara-on-the-Lake site.

And that, says Kevin Smith, appointed by the province to figure out how to fix the regional health system, is because our little hospital isn't broken.

"It's a great place," he says. "It's a really nice little hospital."

And NOTL residents as a whole are the most satisfied bunch of health consumers in the region, he added.

What he has heard from NOTL has been constructive criticism from residents who for the most part embrace the "new reality of ambulatory care."

So when he talks about restructuring the Niagara Health System, he sees no change "in the foreseeable future" to the health care that is provided at the NOTL site.

"In my scenarios, I don't see it closing."

He especially likes the physician-based service that has been embraced by the community, he says.

At this stage in discussions, Smith is floating three options for change to the health system. He has based those options on what he is hearing from stakeholders and the public that might work, he says.

There have been other solutions offered, but cost has to be part of the discussion, he added.

One of his considerations involves "a divorce," breaking the system into two parts, north and south. But that raises questions for which he has no answers, yet—chiefly, how it puts more dollars into patient care, one of the three restructuring goals.

The second option is to keep the NHS as is, but give more autonomy to the individual sites, allowing local decision-making. But that wouldn't seem to eradicate the problems that exist currently, he said.

The third, and at this point most practical scenario is to build a new hospital in the south end, and close some of the existing aging facilities. But he understands that also raises questions, such as what kind of care it would deliver, and where it would be located.

All of these options, he cautions, are in the "formation stage."

He expects to have a report with recommendations to present to the public in late spring, with town-hall style meetings and polling to follow. Decisions won't be made without public consultation, he promises.

But at the same time he understands that whatever is decided, not everyone will be on-side.

The goal, he says, is to come up with something that the leadership of Niagara will accept as "this is as good as it's going to get at the moment," a plan the community will embrace as meeting most of its needs, if not all—"a pretty good solution" that fits the economic reality of today.

So back to Niagara-on-the-Lake, and our hospital with its complex continuing care beds and its physician—based clinic that serve our community very well, if not perfectly.

Can he promise it will stay that way, for always and forever? Of course not.

He anticipates the complex continuing care patients of the future will be sicker than they are today. They may not be able to receive the care they need in a small community hospital. What we may need at that point are more long-term care beds.

Health care, as our population ages—a population that is no longer the "passive medical consumer" of past generations—will need to be revisited, as will the role of our NOTL Hospital.

But for now, he seems content with letting it continue to serve the community in its current capacity, agreeing that while its services might be limited, it does an outstanding job of providing the care it is intended to dispense.

As he says, it's a great little hospital, and we're really fortunate to have it. Perhaps he also understands how fiercely proud we are of our hospital, and how ferociously we would defend it, as we have in the past, were it to be threatened.

opinion

As we celebrate Crossroads, we should consider history of the school it replaced

Councillor will ask Town to reconsider third-party heritage designation for former school site at next council meeting

Sarah Ferguson
Reporter's Notebook

Next Thursday, the community will have the opportunity explore Crossroads Public School during its grand opening celebrations and open house.

It's a fantastic new school with state-of-the-art technology in all of the classrooms, a beautiful gymnasium and a learning commons that can only be described as a hybrid library filled with hundreds of books, computers and gadgets.

Crossroads students have the perfect place to study and all the best technology to aid them in their learning.

I've joked a few times that if I could travel back in time to my elementary school days, I would jump at the chance to attend Crossroads because it's new and everything so is up-to-date.

The open house will be exciting but it will be bitter sweet at the same time—the students have been working on a time capsule to commemorate the grand opening of the new school and the ending of Virgil Public School and Colonel John Butler.

Students will place everything from class pictures, staff photos, coins, a floor plan of the new school, and a write-up about the history of Virgil and Colonel John Butler, in the time capsule.

It will be sealed and placed inside one of the columns at the front entrance of the schoo, where it will remain waiting to be opened.

Fast forward 50 years later and the students and teachers at Crossroads will have the opportunity to open the time capsule and view its contents —they will know what it was like when Crossroads first opened and they will know who were the first students to enjoy the school.

The time capsule that will be saved for a future generation of Crossroads students is another example of how important heritage is to this community.

When Virgil closed its doors last year, there were many questions about what would happen to the property.

Now that the Virgil property has been purchased, the question of what will become of the former school still remains unanswered.

Councillor Martin Mazza says he would like the former school to be given a heritage designation and he will put a motion forward to look at protecting the heritage of the former school site at the next council meeting, Feb. 13.

When the Niagara District School Board put the property up for sale, the Town of Niagara-on-the-Lake considered giving a third-party designation to the school. But the school board asked the Town not to go ahead with the designation because it would discourage buyers from purchasing the property.

Now that the dust has settled, Mazza says he would like to take another look at designating the property.

Virgil came from humble beginnings as a one-room stone building in 1872 and has changed throughout the decades with the addition of new classrooms and a gymnasium.

Until last year, Virgil was one of the oldest schools in Canada that was still in use.

The site has more than 130 years of history with generations of families from Niagara-on-the-Lake who attended it.

If members of the community feel the former site should be protected, it's important to let Town councillors know.

Otherwise, the original one-room school could be lost once when the property is redeveloped.

Ball boy

SARAH FERGUSON Niagara Advance

Aiden Didomenico, 6, made it his duty to chase the balls that flew out of bounds during the Icewine Cup at the Ravine Vineyards in St. Davids. The wrap-up to the NOTL Icewine Festival concluded with local winemakers battling for the coveted trophy in a ball hockey tournament.

letters to the editor

Virgil school property could be kept as green space

Now that we have a state-of-the-art, green public school, and after experiencing the excruciating 'death' of Niagara District Secondary School, may I offer a suggestion for the Virgil Public School property.

Virgil has never had a green space for a park, other than the sports park and a small park behind the Homestead subdivision.

This Virgil property, with its original school kept intact, would be a wonderful place for those who walk, for families to picnic, for seniors and visitors to relax and enjoy.

It could be landscaped by professionals and by village (local) gardeners.

By retaining the original building a green area of historic value would be worthy of the original purpose of the land and would honour all the dedicated teachers, parents and students who have, over the years, attended and contributed to this community.

I realize the property was slated for other purposes very early on but perhaps the new owners could see their way clear to making this a serious consideration for the community.

Marjorie Mikkelsen

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Has your spouse stopped smiling? Parkinson's could be the cause

Dr. Bill Brown discusses ways to recognize and treat Parkinson's and tremors that are not symptoms of the degenerative disease

Parkinson's, a degenerative brain disease for which there is no known cause or cure, may go undiagnosed and untreated for years.

While the most common symptom is the tremor associated with the disease, there are other signs that may precede the tell-tale trembling—a slowness or stiffness in walking, soreness or aching muscles or joints—usually more on one side than the other—problems with balance, or difficulties with speaking or writing, says Dr. Bill Brown.

"Someone might notice their spouse doesn't smile as much, or doesn't have the same facial expressions that they're accustomed to seeing. They may seem more placid. They might not be as active, or when they move it might seem a little stiff or wooden."

One foot might drag a little, or one arm might not swing as much as the other when the person is walking.

"These symptoms may be so small and insidious, they are often attributed to old age. Sometimes it takes awhile for them to be put together to form a diagnosis," says Brown, who will talk about Dr. Parkinson's Disease tremors at next week's InfoHealth Session at the Niagara-on-the-Lake Public Library.

Parkinson's can be diagnosed by a scan that reveals a drop in dopamine—which has probably depreciated by about 50 per cent by the time the symptoms appear, he said.

With him will be pharmacist Sean Simpson, who can talk about the medications that help both the symptoms of Parkinson's and tremors that are unrelated to Parkinson's.

"We want the public to understand the treatment, and the pharmacist understands the medication and its side-effects as much or in some cases more than the physician," says Dr. Brown. "He may know more about what's new and different. The pharmacist has an active role to play in the treatment of Parkinson's."

The disease is common among seniors, says Dr. Brown.

"In NOTL, maybe 10 percent, or even as high as 15 percent, of the population will develop some symptoms, some features of Parkinson's."

Once receiving medication, the symptoms may disappear—muscle aching, soreness and stiffness may be gone, and family members may comment that their loved one's smile has returned.

"The difference can actually be quite dramatic."

But while the symptoms can be relieved, the disease continues to progress. "It's a degenerative disease, and we can't stop the progression."

See Page 11

The Town of Niagara-on-the-Lake
1593 Four Mile Creek Rd., Box 100, Virgil, ON L0S 1T0 905-468-3266 www.notl.org

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NOTICE OF PUBLIC INFORMATION MEETING

Contextual Zone Standards

PROPOSED CHANGE
The purpose of this public information meeting is to implement Council's direction to begin the public planning process to undertake amendments to the contextual zone standards in Zoning By-law 4316-09.

The proposed amendment will remove contextual zone standards from the Established Residential (ER) Zone and the Established Residential (ER2) Zone of the Old Town as it relates to building height, front yard and exterior side yard setbacks. However, the proposed amendment will retain contextual zone standards regarding lot frontage and depth for the creation of new lots in the Established Residential (ER) Zone and the Established Residential (ER2) Zone in the Old Town.

HAVE YOUR SAY
Input on any proposed zoning change is welcome and encouraged. You can provide input by: speaking at the public information meeting or by making a written submission to the Town.

PUBLIC INFORMATION MEETING
Date: February 27, 2012
Time: 6:00 PM
Place: Town of Niagara-on-the-Lake
Administrative Offices, Council Chambers
1593 Four Mile Creek Road, Virgil, Ontario

WRITTEN SUBMISSION
To provide input in writing, or to request personal notice if the proposed change is adopted, please send a letter c/o Town Clerk Holly Dowd, 1593 Four Mile Creek Road, P.O. Box 100, Virgil, Ontario, L0S 1T0.

MORE INFORMATION
For more information please contact Kay Grant, Planner II at 905-468-3266, extension 297 or kgrant@notl.org. A copy of this notice can be found on the Towns website at www.notl.org.

LEGAL NOTICE
Section 34 of the Planning Act

If a person or public body does not make oral submissions at a public meeting or make written submissions to the Town of Niagara-on-the-Lake before this matter is passed, the person or public body is not entitled to appeal the decision of the Town of Niagara-on-the-Lake Council to the Ontario Municipal Board.

If a person or public body does not make oral submissions at a public meeting, or make written submission to the Town of Niagara-on-the-Lake before this matter is passed, the person or public body may not be added as a party to the hearing of an appeal before the Ontario Municipal Board unless, in the opinion of the Board, there is reasonable grounds to do so.

If you wish to be notified of the decision of Town Council in respect to this matter you must make a written request to the Town Clerk.

Dated at the Town of Niagara-on-the-Lake this 2nd day of February 2012.

The Town of Niagara-on-the-Lake
1593 Four Mile Creek Rd., Box 100, Virgil, ON L0S 1T0 905-468-3266 www.notl.org

COMMUNITY & DEVELOPMENT SERVICES
1593 Four Mile Creek Rd., Box 100, Virgil, ON L0S 1T0 • www.notl.org • 905-468-3266

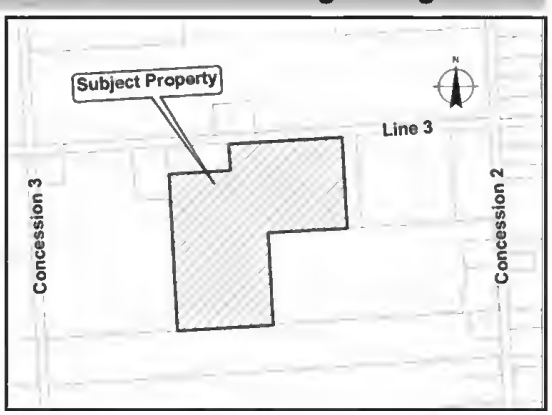
NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING

1057-1069 Line 3 Road - Zoning Change

PROPOSED CHANGE
To rezone the subject lands to Agricultural Purposes Only Zone.

HAVE YOUR SAY
Input on any proposal is welcome and encouraged. You can provide input by: speaking at the public meeting or by making a written submission to the Town.

PUBLIC MEETING
Date: February 27, 2012
Time: 7:00 PM
or as soon as possible thereafter
Place: Town of Niagara-on-the-Lake
Administrative Offices
Council Chambers
1593 Four Mile Creek Road
Virgil, Ontario



WRITTEN SUBMISSION
To provide input in writing, or to request personal notice if the proposed change is adopted, please send a letter c/o Town Clerk Holly Dowd, 1593 Four Mile Creek Road, P.O. Box 100, Virgil, Ontario, L0S 1T0.

MORE INFORMATION
For more information please contact Kay Grant, Planner II at 905-468-326, extension 297 or kgrant@notl.org. A copy of this notice can be found on the Towns website at www.notl.org.

LEGAL NOTICE
Section 34 of the Planning Act
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If you wish to be notified of the decision of Town Council in respect to this matter you must make a written request to the Town Clerk.

Dated at the Town of Niagara-on-the-Lake this 2nd day of February 2012.

Learn how annoying tremors unrelated to Parkinson's can also be treated

From Page 8

But there are other tremors that are a completely different issue, although patients may come in concerned that they have Parkinson's, he says.

In most cases, there's a genetic component, but the main concern is that people who have hands or voices that tremble may find the condition annoying or embarrassing. Such tremors can worsen under stress, says Dr. Brown, and can be treated if they interfere with daily activities.

There are other diseases that share some of the symptoms of Parkinson's, but are not related to the depletion of dopamine, he said.

These "Parkinson's look-alikes" often include other symptoms that are not markers for Parkinson's, he says.

The Parkinson Society of Canada, in partnership with more than 240 chapters and support groups, is dedicated to research, education, support and advocacy on behalf of over 100,000 Canadians living with Parkinson's, and is a useful resource for those living with the disease.

To learn more about Parkinson's and tremors, attend the InfoHealth session at the NOTL Public Library Wednesday, Feb. 8 at 2 p.m.

Previous InfoHealth sessions are available on DVD at the library. The monthly sessions are recorded by Cogeco and are available to view on Channel 10 Fridays at 6 p.m. and Saturdays at 10:30 a.m.

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Niagara Region

NOTICE OF PUBLIC INFORMATION CENTRE #3

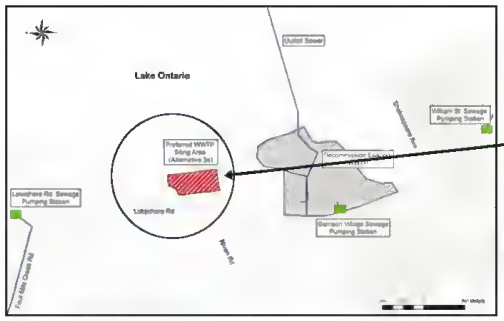
NIAGARA-ON-THE-LAKE WASTEWATER SERVICING
HARMONIZED FEDERAL/PROVINCIAL ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT AND OFFICIAL PLAN AMENDMENT

Niagara Region commenced a MEA Class Environmental Assessment (EA) project in 2008 to investigate future wastewater servicing alternatives for the Niagara Urban Service Area (NUSA/NOTL Old Town) and the community of Virgil. Increased wastewater servicing capacity for the service area is now forecasted to be required by 2016.

As a result of Canadian Environmental Assessment Act (CEAA) triggers being identified during the Class EA, it became necessary to complete this project as a Harmonized Federal/Provincial EA. The objective of this study is to:

- Provide increased servicing capacity to accommodate future growth proposed for the two communities
- Address wastewater flows that occur during wet weather events
- Address operating issues at the existing wastewater treatment plant (WWTP)

Two Public Information Centres (PIC #1 and PIC #2) were held where background information, details of the proposed decision making approach, and the long-list of alternative servicing solutions was presented as well as a short-list of alternative solutions and the screening procedures that had been used to identify them. In addition, detailed evaluation criteria proposed to be used to evaluate the short-list of alternative solutions to select the preferred solution was also presented for review. The preferred solution is to be a new WWTP on Parks Canada property as shown.



The Town of Niagara-on-the-Lake Official Plan requires an amendment to permit its development. The proposed Official Plan Amendment (OPA) will redesignate land for the construction of a new wastewater treatment facility that will replace the existing facility at 1738 Lakeshore Road.

Representatives from the Region, the Town of Niagara-on-the-Lake, their consultants, and Parks Canada will be present at PIC #3 to answer questions and discuss the next steps in the project.

Public Information Centre #3 (PIC #3) is scheduled for:

Date:	**Wednesday February 8, 2012**
Time:	**6:00 pm to 8:30 pm**
Public Presentation:	**7:00 pm to 7:30 pm**
Location:	**Niagara-on-the-Lake Community Center** **The Simpson Room** **14 Anderson Lane,** **Town of Niagara-on-the-Lake, ON**

Public, review agencies and interest groups are invited to provide input and comments for incorporation into the planning and design of the wastewater servicing for NOTL, as well as on the decision-making processes and recommendations presented at the PIC. Consultation with and input from the public, review agencies and interest groups are vital components of the study, and will assist the project team in meeting the requirements of the Harmonized Federal/Provincial EA process.

With the exception of personal information, all comments received as a result of this project will become part of the public record. If you have any questions or comments, wish to obtain more information on this project, or would like to be added to the direct notification mailing list, please contact either:

Ms. Michelle Moore, C.E.T., Project Coordinator (T), Water & Wastewater Engineering,
Regional Municipality of Niagara,
3501 Schmon Parkway, P.O. Box 1042, Thorold, Ontario L2V 4T7
Telephone - 905 685-4225 ext. 3611 or Fax - 905 685-5205
Email: michelle.moore@niagararegion.ca

Ms. Kay Grant, Development Planner II
Town of Niagara-on-the-Lake,
1593 Four Mile Creek Road, Virgil, Ontario L0S 1T0
Telephone - 905 468-3266 ext 297 Fax - 905 468-0310
Email: kgrant@notl.org

Mr. Don Cane, P. Eng. Project Manager, Hatch Mott MacDonald, Consultant
15 Allstate Parkway, Suite 300, Markham, Ontario L3R 5B4
Telephone - 905 940-5840 or Fax - 905 940-5848
Email: don.cane@hatchmott.com

If you require any accommodations for a disability in order to attend and participate in the February 8, 2012 meeting, please contact the Accessibility Advisory Coordinator at 905- 685-4225 ext. 3252, by February 3, 2012 to make the appropriate arrangements.

www.niagararegion.ca

Breakfast *with* Rob Nicholson, M.P. $12.00 PER PERSON

Saturday, February 4, 2012 at 9:00 am

Notice to all members of the Niagara Falls Conservative Electoral District Association. The Annual General Meeting will be held February 4th, 2012 at the Best Western Cairn Croft, 6400 Lundy's Lane, immediately following the Breakfast.

You must be a member in good standing to vote at the AGM. Agenda to include a review of the past year, voting for 2012 Board of Directors and proposed changes to the Constitution.

Please contact 905-401-4612 if you are interested in being a board member, or to to verify your membership status.
You can also contact the NFEDA at info@nfconservative.ca

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Raise a glass to the Icewine Cup winners

SARAH FERGUSON Niagara Advance

The NOTL Icewine Festival concluded with local winemakers competing in a ball hockey tournament. Icewine Festival Chair Andrea Kaiser of Reif Estate Winery (centre) and Shawn Spiewak (right) of Ravine Vineyards awarded Diamond Estate winemakers Jason Roller, Danny Churchill and Tom Green the first Icewine Cup. They defeated St. Davids Bench 3-2 in their final game to win the Icewine title.

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AARON CHERNEY* 905-401-7915

Euchre parties a 60–year tradition—at least

Penny Coles
Niagara Advance

Nobody remembers exactly when the euchre parties in Virgil started.

But the newer card tables have a date on the bottom—they were purchased in 1961.

Some who show up for Friday night progressive euchre hosted by the VIrgil Women's Institute have been playing for decades, coming out for homemade pie, coffee and an evening entertainment at a price that can't be beat.

However, euchre parties have become a popular way to fundraise, and with so many different groups competing in a difficult economy, participation in a Virgil tradition that goes back at least 60 years is declining.

The Virgil Women's Institute is approaching its 100th anniversary of serving the community, and their euchre parties remain the major fundraising event, says member Sandra Edgeworth.

But gone are the days when they would have 20 tables of card players. Now, they're fortunate if they get five or six tables of four in the Mary Snider room at the arena, says Edgeworth.

At $3.50 for an evening of entertainment, with coffee and dessert, it might be the best deal around.

The women bring a variety of homemade pies to serve with coffee, and raisin bread for those who want something tasty but with a little less sugar. Any left-over pies are sold, and some people may come just for the opportunity to purchase one, says Edgeworth.

See Page 12

Tim Andrews, Sheila and Earl Muir, Sandra Edgeworth, Margaret, Len, Lena and Lane Byl are regulars at the Friday evening euchre parties hosted by the Virgil Women Institute.

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Fundraising card games best entertainment bargain in town, regulars say

From Page 11

Sheila and Earl Muir are two of the Friday night regulars at the VWI card parties.

Earl says he has been playing for more than 50 years—his mother was a member of the VWI, he says, and the card games had been going on for at least 10 years before he began playing.

Lena Byl, a member since the 60s, comes out weekly with her family.

"Many couples make it a night out," she says.

'It's a great time to see your friends and neighbours," adds Muir. "We come for friendship, and a piece of pie."

The games are good fun, and not serious—you don't have to be a great card player, although Len Byl jokes that everyone comes to win, since there is money at stake.

However, top prize is only $5, with cash for second and third place, and most lone hands.

"It's not exactly big money, but it can pay for your evening out," says Lane Byl.

"It a great deal."

And as the VWI's main fundraiser, it is a way to give back to the community, says Lena.

Games are in the Mary Snider Room of the Virgil arena, and start at 7:30 p.m. For more information call Edgeworth at 905-262-5044.

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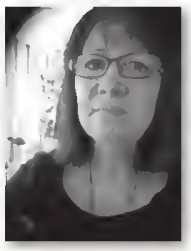
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15836 NIAGARA RIVER PARKWAY $1,299,000

Executive bungalow to be built on a one acre property situated along the prestigious Niagara Parkway with views across to the river. Superior home with luxurious floor plan showcasing 3400 square feet of quality workmanship and custom finishes throughout. N30001236. Thomas Elltoft and Viviane Elltoft

10 FIRELANE 6A $1,095,000

Stunning waterfront home! 2,760 sq. ft., 3 bedrooms, 3 baths & a private self-contained main floor guest/in-law suite. This property has so many features & upgrades, please call us for a comprehensive list. MLS 20144253. Chris Bowron and Audrey Wright.

94 PRIDEAUX STREET $1,395,000

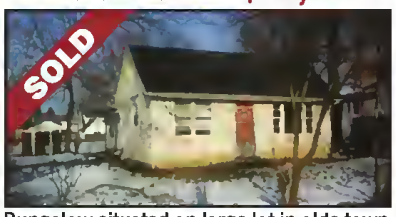
This historic home circa 1822 with large principal rooms is truly a unique property. It is located in the heart of town on beautiful Prideaux Street – just steps to everything. Ideal for family entertaining, corporate getaway or Bed and Breakfast. Currently licensed for four rooms. MLS 20141699. Victoria (Vicki) Bolduc.

6 LAURA SECORD PL. $629,000

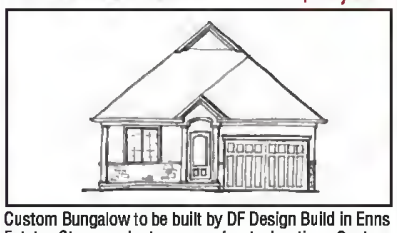
Exceptional family home with almost 4000 sf of finished living area. 5 bedrooms, 4 baths. Large, private yard. Located close to woods and a walking trail in Garrison Village. Doug Snider. MLS N30000708

3 LUTHER AVENUE $399,000

6 year old custom built home in desired area close to lake and parks and only a short walk to main street. Tasteful neutral decor throughout with an open floor plan that suits a modern casual lifestyle. Tom Elltoft and Kim Elltoft. MLS 20146471

475 VICTORIA STREET $269,000


Bungalow situated on large lot in olde town NOTL. Possibilities of renovating, renting or building new home.
Thomas Elltoft or Kim Elltoft.

1652 FOUR MILE CREEK RD - LOT 14 $376,900

Custom Bungalow to be built by DF Design Build in Enns Estate. Stone and stucco on front elevation. Custom designed kitchen. Hardwood flooring in living room, dining room and kitchen. Ceramic in entrance and bathrooms. MLS N30000608 Randy Armstong

17 CRICKET HOLLOW $789,000

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Sports

Editor Penny Coles
905–468–3283 ext. 103 editor@niagaraadvance.com

Williams hat trick aids Legion tyke 0–0 shut–out against Thorold

In tyke action of the Niagara-on-the-Lake Minor Hockey Association, the Royal Canadian Legion dominated in a recent game against Thorold.

Branch 124 took home a 9-0 win thanks to Ethan Williams, who earned a hat trick, and Noah Ostramecki with two goals.

Both were assisted by Kylie Black.

Single goals were scored by Madison Giampa, Jack Parker and Jack Friessen.

The team showed great passing skills with assists from Will Caughill, Blair Burland, Black, Orstomecki and Williams.

Between the pipes, Liam Dietsch earned the team's first shut-out for the season.

The tykes also tied 6-6 with Thorold during another action-packed game on Saturday.

Williams earned another hat trick, with two goals from Jack Parker. Ostromecki scored a single.

Assists came from Dietsch, Ben McLean, Jack Marotta, Caden Banville and Giampa. Playing between the pipes, Kylie Black provided a nail-biting game for the fans.

The entire team showed great skills to finish the game in a tie.

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Showing team spirit

In atom action of the Niagara-on-the-Lake Minor Hockey Association, Adam Denee,of Brox Company, skated hard on the ice last Saturday. Despite a strong team effort, Brox Company was defeated by Pelham 6-3. Players Nicholas Lepp, Ethan Siemens and Ryan Heaven each scored single goals during the game.

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NOTL Minor Softball

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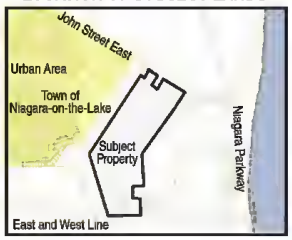
Niagara Region

NOTICE OF PUBLIC INFORMATION MEETING
PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO THE REGIONAL POLICY PLAN

LOCATION OF SUBJECT LANDS



PROPOSAL
An application has been received on behalf of Nutri-Botanicals Corp. to amend the Regional Policy Plan. The purpose of the amendment is to connect to the sanitary sewer system to service the proposed Two Sisters Estate Winery located at 240 John Street, Niagara-on-the-Lake.

HAVE YOUR SAY
Niagara Region has not yet made a decision regarding this application. Input on the proposed Regional Policy Plan is welcome and encouraged. You can provide input by speaking at the public information meeting or by making a written submission to Niagara Region for the Regional Policy Plan Amendment. Please note that unless you do one of the above, you will not be able to appeal the decision later.

PUBLIC INFORMATION MEETING
DATE: Feb. 15, 2012
TIME: 6 p.m.
LOCATION: Council Chambers
1593 Four Mile Creek Road, P.O. Box 100
Town of Niagara-on-the-Lake, ON

WRITTEN SUBMISSION
To provide input in writing, or to request written notice of the decision of the Regional Policy Plan Amendment send a letter to:
Ms. Denise Landry, Planner
Integrated Community Planning
Regional Municipality of Niagara
2201 St. David's Rd., PO Box 1042
Thorold, ON L2V 4T7

NEXT STEPS
After considering any written comments and the comments from the public information meeting and statutory public meeting, a Recommendation Report will be prepared for a future Regional Council meeting.

For further information on the Regional Policy Plan Amendment please contact Denise Landry, Regional Planner at 905-685-4225 ext. 3593. A copy of the Region's Background Information Report, ICP 15-2012, can be obtained from the Integrated Community Planning Department at Regional Headquarters.

If you require any accommodations for a disability in order to attend and participate in the meeting, please let us know in advance so that arrangements can be made in a timely manner. Please contact the Accessibility Advisory Co-ordinator at 905-685-4225 ext. 3252 or send an email to accessibility@niagararegion.ca.

Niagara Motors Wolves win back–to–back games

In novice action of the Niagara-on-the-Lake Minor Hockey Association, the Niagara Motors Wolves had a busy weekend of game play.

The team celebrated two back-to-back victories on home ice.

Last Saturday's game against West Lincoln ended with a 13 – 1 victory for Niagara Motors.

Reid Andres scored a hat trick.

Ethan Gould, Chris Scott, Mike Orsini, and Landon Cullen scored two goals each.

Single goals were scored by Fin Grealy and Nathan Rawsthorne.

Assists were earned by Will Clayton, Nolan Price, Mitchell Berg, Cullen and Rawsthorne.

Last Sunday night, Niagara Motors skated away with their second win.

This time, the Wolves played a different West Lincoln team and won 14-3.

Cameron Kiemele played a solid game between the pipes.

He made several key saves that kept West Lincoln from moving ahead.

Berg and Nolan Price showed great defensive skills on the ice.

Abbey Penner stood out during the game for her great offensive skills on the ice.

Rawsthorne and Andres each earned a hat trick.

Orsini, Nathan Vandelaar, and Lukas Paugh collected two goals each.

Single goals were scored by Clayton and Gould.

Earning assists for Niagara Motors were Chris Scott, Vandelaar, Orsini, Andres, Rawsthorne, Grealy, Cullen and Gould.

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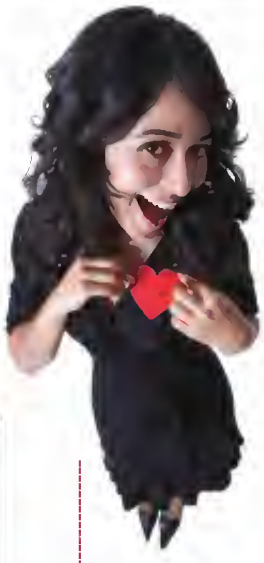

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The Estate Trustees for the Estate of **AGNES LEONE OSTROSSER,** late of the Town of Niegara-on-the-Leke, Onterio, who died on the 11th day of September, 2009, will distribute the assets of her estete efter the 3rd day of March, 2012, having regard only to the clelms of creditors end others filed on or before that date with the undersigned.

Dated et the City of Niegere Fells, this 20th day of January, 2012.

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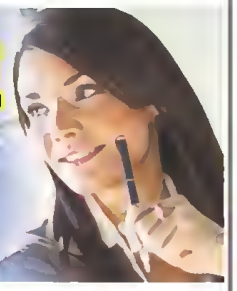

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Obituaries | In Memoriam | Thanks | Births | Celebrations | More

Deaths

BARTEL, Rudy - Peacefully at Hotel Dieu Shaver Hospital on Friday, January 27, 2012, Rudy Bartel, aged 80 years, went to meet his Saviour. Loving husband of Irene (nee Wiens) and dear father of Judi, Ken and Rose, Cheryl and Ed Heinrichs, Mark and Patty, Matthew and Alison. Opa to Ashley, Luke (Rene), Kyle, Kelsey, Calvin, Josh, Nicki, Julien, Jackson and Madison. Great Opa to Tyler. Brother of Betty Pauls and John (Tina) Bartel. Predeceased by brothers Peter and Frank. Rudy formerly taught at Niagara District and Grantham Secondary Schools and Eden Christian College where he also was principal. The family received friends at the Cornerstone Community Church, 1570 Niagara Stone Road (Hwy. #55) Virgil on Monday, January 30th from 2-4 and 6-8 pm. Funeral Service was held at the Church on Tuesday at 1:30 pm. Interment followed at Niagara Lakeshore Cemetery. If desired memorial donations to Cornerstone Community Church Missions would be appreciated. Online condolences at;
www.tallmanfuneralhomes.ca
12501791

Although we smile and make no fuss
No one misses him more than us.
And when old times we oft recall,
It's then we miss you most of all.

Memoriam Verse #19
To remember a loved one with this verse
Call 1-866-541-6757 Today

11283850

A million times I've needed you
A million times I've cried,
If love could have saved you
You never would have died.
Things we feel most deeply
Are the hardest things to say,
My dearest one, I loved you,
In a very special way.
If I could have one lifetime wish
One dream that could come true,
I'd pray to God with all my heart
For yesterday and you.

Memoriam Verse #81
To remember a loved one with this verse
Call 1-866-541-6757 Today

11283828

Deaths

STEELE, Owen Stevenson - Owen "crossed the bar" peacefully on Sunday, January 29, 2012 aged 90 years. Beloved husband of Doreen (Johnston) for 65 years, loving father of Elizabeth McCuaig (Ian), Peter (Ann) and the late Robert Steele. Proud grandfather of Jasmine and Zachary Steele. Dear brother of Isabelle Atkinson (late David) and James H. Steele (Frances) both of Newfoundland. Owen was an electrical engineer, Cmdr of the Niagara-on-the-Lake Sailing Club (1989-1990) and a proud veteran of the British Royal Navy, serving on minesweepers during WWII. Friends may attend a Memorial Service at St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church, 323 Simcoe St., Niagara-on-the-Lake on Saturday, February 4, 2012 at 1:00 p.m. Rev. Barb McGale officiating. Reception to follow. Inurnment to take place in Newfoundland. In lieu of flowers, donations to War Veteran's Family Award, Memorial University, 20 Lambe's Lane, St. John's, Newfoundland A1C 5S7 would be appreciated. Arrangements in care of the **NIAGARA ST. CHAPEL of BUTLER FUNERAL HOME**, St. Catharines. On-line condolences available at www.butlerniagara.ca
12502356

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Time for community to visit beautiful new elementary school

Kindergarten open house, grand opening celebration and NOTL Home Show all opportunities to see Crossroads Public School.

Crossroads Public School
In the Classroom

Rushon Dagelman and Ryan Gray
Crossroads Public School

Have you been wondering what Crossroads looks like on the inside? Here's your chance to find out ... in fact, here are three chances to visit.

First, we're excited to be opening our building for the Kindergarten Open House on Thursday, Feb. 2, from 4 to 6 p.m.

If you have a child that will be turning four or five during 2012, they are ready to join us in Junior Kindergarten or Senior Kindergarten.

Get the kids ready for the best years of school ever, by touring the classrooms, meeting the staff, and getting them registered for our full day, every day, Early Learning Program. Visit www.dsbn.org and click on "kindergarten registration" for all the details.

Next week, you can come join honoured guests at the Grand Opening Celebration and Open House. Visit Crossroads Public School on Thursday Feb. 9, on Niagara Stone Road.

The doors open at 2 p.m., and the program begins at 2:15 p.m. We will be enjoying songs, videos, reflections, loading our time capsule, and generally celebrating our amazing school.

There will be a reception and refreshments from 3 to 3:30 p.m. and the open house will be between 3:30 and 6 p.m. You are welcome to stop during this time to take a tour of the building and see that the inside is even more awesome than the outside! Don't miss this historical event.

Now if that wasn't enough opportunity to come in and see our fabulous facility, the fourth Annual NOTL Home Show is coming up on Saturday, March 3.

Come by, and enjoy the area's largest home show with a wide variety of businesses showcasing their products and services.

There will be a barbecue, silent auction, bake sale and fun for people of all ages. It's a free event. This is our school council's biggest fundraiser of the year

Proceeds will go to the second phase of our playground. Come enjoy a day out with your family, and support our school at the same time. What an exciting month for Crossroads; so come visit us.

Brandon Falk, Renae Stearns, Kody Jenkinson, and Mirian Andres are building with blocks at Crossroads. Today is Kindergarten registration day, and next Thursday is the open house for the community to see the new school.

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12 HEARTH COURT

Modern Family Luxury! Fabulous space for entertaining and casual family living. 3,000 sq. ft. including Great Room and 4 large bedrooms. Finished rec room, home office and a walk-out to garden with inground pool and hottub. $499,000 Call Nancy Brazeau 905-371-4234*

163 JOHN STREET

A Gracious Three Storey Georgian Home that exudes the refined details of 6500 sq ft. of living space. Featuring a gourmet kitchen, substantial bedrooms, wine cellar and in ground pool. Offered at $1,195,000. Call Glenn Brazeau 905-321-9075*

3 MERITAGE LANE

*A stunning vista of lush vineyards and sunsets awaits you - be it on the 44` wide cedar deck or the interior catwalk on the upper level. This professionally-decorated home boasts excellent taste and superb quality. Offered at $669,000. Call Gary Snider** 905-988-2205.*

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5 Meritage Lane $629,000

Discover the magic of Meritage Lane. Views over the vineyards & sunsets compliment the 2-bedrm, 2-bath bungalow design w/open loft style den/home office. The kitchen boasts black granite w/breakfast bar & all stainless steel appliances. The home is highlighted by exotic wood, marble & ceramic floors.

179 Mary Street $549,000

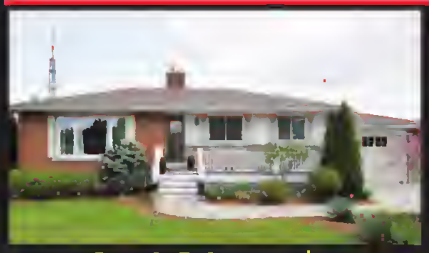
A rare and unique home combining the history of a 19th century barn with a modern two storey addition completed in 2002 that has all the romance and charm of "Tara" in Gone with the Wind. This home boasts high ceilings, wood floors and a layout especially suited to the large family or the operation of a B&B. Privacy for guests and owners alike.

407 Gate Street $279,000

Wonderful cozy 2-bedroom bungalow in the heart of Old Town. Situated on corner of William and Gate streets, this charming little cottage is only a short stroll from all Niagara-on-the-Lake has to offer. Perfect for a weekend getaway, vacation home, cottage rental, or for active retirees.

18 Firelane 14D $349,000

Prime lake front lot which measures 50 x 200 feet. Home is cosy & comfortable, but value is in the land.

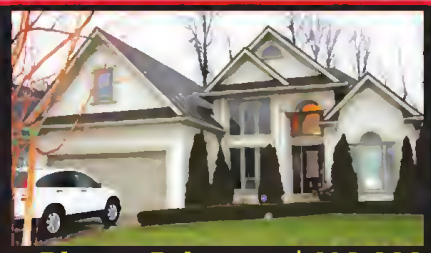


1265 Creek Rd $339,000

Outstanding country bungalow with room for the whole family plus space for a home occupation. Gleaming hardwood floors throughout the main level. Fully finished lower level featuring large rec room with gas fireplace. The gently rolling 1.37 acre lot is all fenced and there is a hip roof barn ideal for the hobbyist.

73 Firelane 2 $775,000

Fully finished multi-level home with walkout to fabulous lakefront lot with inground pool. Large foyer with vaulted ceiling and skylight, gleaming wood floors, L-shaped living & dining w/maple kitchen & dinette, 3 bedrooms, 2 baths.



7 Bianca Drive $489,000

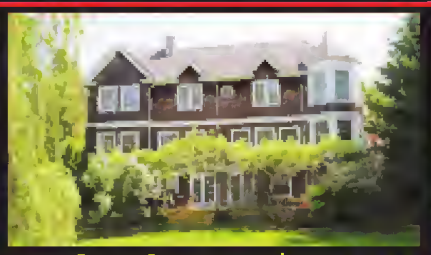
Spectacular bungalow with soaring ceilings, a wonderful plan with high quality finishes only found in a custom home. Foyer leads to formal living room with fireplace, amazing dining room with nearly 2 storey ceiling, casual family room leads in to the kitchen, a homemaker's delight with granite counters and stainless appliances and lots of room for the growing family. The recently built out lower level includes, family room with built-ins, oversize gym, quiet office, cold cellar and lots of storage.

139 Victoria Street $1,095,000

A grande old home in the Old Town, updated throughout with 5 bedrooms and 5 1/2 baths. Home to a very successful B & B 'Aberdeen' with fabulous open concept kitchen/family room, formal living and dining rooms. Third floor master suite is a luxurious retreat with great space and wonderful views!

231 Creek Road $489,000

Bakery on the Bench, a very popular café on the wine route. Being sold as a going concern. A much sought after configuration with commercial on the ground floor and living quarters upstairs.



340 Gate Street $1,198,000

An easy stroll to Queen Street this highly successful B & B is also a fine family home, nestled on a 1/3 of an acre with One Mile Creek meandering through the property. More than 7,000 sq. ft. finished on three floors with full walkout basement to private deck area. 7 bedrooms and baths, master's den with many built-ins, a kitchen/ family room to die for, many exotic finishes and flooring, high ceilings, two laundry rooms, rec room.

6 Creekside Dr. $445,000

Located in the gentle slopes of the Niagara Escarpment, you will be very proud to call this 2-bedroom, 2-bathroom custom new home yours! It is of the highest quality including granite counters, ceramic & wood floors and 9' ceilings.

33 Riesling Drive $289,900

The Vidal Model. Custom exterior streetscpaes, architecturally inspired elevations that will include a combination of brick, stone or vinyl siding. Hi-eff gas furnace and c/a unit. All ceilings are 9`. Flooring includes ceramics in entrance, kit, laundry and bathrooms.